

Hopeful SJSU students, along with the Daily, welcome 'Jeopardy!' contestant search

See page 3

The Olympics: Are they real or a made for television event? You decide the truth

See page 4

SPARTAN DAILY

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February 13, 1998

Student hit by car in crosswalk

By Jeremiah Oshan
Staff Writer

Student Desiree Saldana was hit by a car while in a crosswalk on 10th and San Antonio streets near the Business Tower on Thursday, San Jose police reported.

Saldana, a 22-year-old San Jose State University student, "came into contact with the car" and was sent to the emergency room at San Jose Medical Center, according to Sgt. Timothy Halpin.

"Saldana was admitted for observation and is in good condition," said Patty Cooper, staffing coordinator at San Jose Medical Center.

According to a witness at the scene, the view of the car that struck Saldana may have been blocked by another car which had already stopped to let her cross the street.

Some think that it was just a matter of time before this happened.

"I walk by those areas (crosswalks) all the time. People don't even look before they go out into the street."

— Adam Billington
SJSU student

"You've got to run across the street," said Kevin Clement, whose girlfriend a member of Chi Pi Sigma told him about the incident. "They need to put a stop sign here."

Others are not surprised for a different reason. "I walk by those areas (crosswalks) all the time," student Adam Billington said.

"People don't even look before they go out into the street. I'm surprised it hasn't happened sooner."

The law states that whichever party is causing the hazard is the one at fault.

"A pedestrian can't just dart out into the street," traffic officer Joe Wicker said.

Wicker also said that when they see violations by either drivers or students they write a ticket.

It was still not clear if the driver of the car would be charged with anything.

Saldana is a member of business fraternity Chi Pi Sigma, which is across the street from the business tower.



J. Edmund Niese/Spartan Daily

Emergency personnel place Desiree Saldana into an ambulance at the corner of 10th and San Antonio streets, while the car that hit her is seen in the background.



Pilots 'jet' lovers to Cloud Nine

By Cindy Scarberry
Staff Writer

Can you do it on a train? Can you do it in a plane? The answer is yes, you can do it in a plane. Thanks to the Mile High Club.

Keith Mason, a commercial pilot and owner of the Mile High Club, will fly sweethearts 5,280 feet above campus and over the Pacific Ocean for an hour of passion aboard a Cessna 401.

Mason and his partner, Jason Kirk, have flown lovers from San Francisco to Los Angeles.

"We get all kinds of people, from 49ers to business executives, who want to try something different," Kirk said.

Sunset flights are the most popular reservations, according to Mason, although he will fly any time of the day.

"We have three fantasy flights booked for Valentine's Day," he said. "I hope the weather cooperates."

Mason books fantasy flights or trips for those who wish to explore sex at higher elevations 24 hours a day. He said New Year's Eve is the busiest day of the year.

Couples looking to put a little spice into their love punch may bring music, food, beverages, nearly anything to make a little nookie amidst the clouds, according to Mason.

And people do. "Some people bring toys, oils or incense," Mason said. "But, no candles. It's not allowed for safety reasons."

Mason transforms the twin-engine commuter plane's executive cabin into a six-by-four-foot love nest with a feather bed and pop-up pillows. A stereo boom box sits atop

a leather seat. Four clothes hangers dangle from two matching hooks at the tail-end of the cabin.

After takeoff (for the plane, that is), the passengers may remove their seatbelts. This is where creativity comes in.

A few of Mason's more romantic couples have proposed to their future brides aboard what Mason refers to as "the limo in the sky."

Recently, a young man wanted to surprise his fiancée with a wedding proposal from heaven. He arranged 3,200 lights on the lawn of his Campbell home and then reserved a flight with Mile High. When the plane soared over the designated spot, he directed his fiancée to peer out of the egg-shaped window of the plane. She saw the words "Will you marry me?" down below. "The young woman couldn't refuse," Mason said.

Andrew Berntsen, an SJSU aviation major, studies in the SJSU Aviation Building behind the Mile High Club hangar.

"It's a win-win situation," he said. "The pilot logs hours and the couple ... well, you know."

Jason Balser, also an SJSU aviation major, said the \$450 Mile High ticket price is reasonable, but he didn't think his parents would be happy to know people were having sex while flying above them in the sky.

"It's something to do once, to say you've done it," he said.

When flying becomes more than a hobby, some combine their favorite interests.

"I can't think of anything better than flying and sex together," Mason said.



Photos by Grayson West/Spartan Daily

A window view out of the love plane of the greater San Jose valley.



Keith Mason does a routine flight check of all the vital fluids before flight. Mason is one of the Mile High Club pilots.

New child care center gets land

By Nicholas Boer
Staff Writer

Six years after students voted in a \$6 per semester fee to build a new child care center, they finally have something to show for it — a vacant lot.

Associated Students closed the deal on the 30,000-square-foot property located at Eighth and San Salvador streets on Jan. 30. The issue at hand now is what will go on top of the \$500,000 property.

A feasibility study is currently underway by Gordon H. Chang and Partners who will offer proposals for both a "modular" — meaning portable — and "ground-up" facility. The architectural firm was told to return designs within a \$1.3 million construction budget.

Fran Roth, director of child care at San Jose State University since 1982, said she would much rather see a ground-up facility.

"If you had the choice of a house or a trailer, what would you pick?" she asked.

AS Director Alfonso De Alba, who recently toured the brand new \$4 million child care facility at San Francisco State University, expects the firm will come back with a much higher figure for the ground-up proposal.

"Our intention is to provide the best child care facility for our students," De Alba said. "We can have a castle, but if it's not functional it doesn't matter."

The project designer for the architecture firm, Douglas Olson, said its goal is to match the needs of the child care program with the site and the budget.

"It's a great location," Olson said. He attributed some of the high cost of the SFSU site to its sloped location. Olson said the firm wants to educate the child care committee on its different options.

"We would have to rule out the ground-up immediately," Olson said of the \$1.3 million figure.

Total accumulated funds from the student fees set aside for the center will amount to \$1.7 million by the end of the semester. Loans from the university are a possibility for a ground-up facility, but De Alba said that if the proposal for a modular building comes in for half the price

See *Child care*, page 6

'Rubber' roses offer trip down sexual freedom freeway

By Nicholas Boer
Staff Writer

Roses, an enduring symbol of romance and courtship, remain the standard of nonverbal expression on Valentine's Day.

According to spokesperson Joe Cross, 1-800-FLOWERS will receive 2 million phone calls this week — handling only a fraction of the 150 million roses the floral industry will sell this holiday.

The message behind a gift of fresh roses may be platonic, but the bunches of condom roses being

sold in the Student Union have an explicit sexual implication.

But Chris Wong, a senior majoring in accounting who was selling the plastic-petalled prophylactics, said a gift of condom roses didn't necessarily mean sex was the desired result.

"It's just a gesture," Wong said.

Helping people communicate their true desires and transcend socially imposed sexual roles is one goal of Morris Kaplan, an associate professor of philosophy at Purchase College at the State University of New York.

Kaplan, an author on gay rights, is currently on

sabbatical and is teaching a course on sexual justice at San Jose State University.

Kaplan points to the upsurge of interest in domesticity by gay males in the aftermath of AIDS as an example of how it is to admit to feelings of frustration.

By the same token, the introduction of oral contraception has made it possible for middle class women to break free from a sexually restricted mold.

"It all depends on what you've been denied," Kaplan said. "The important part is the individual figuring out how to use their sexual freedom."

Kaplan said communication is crucial in an era where availability of contraceptives might make males consider a more direct approach than roses to express their desire.

"The linkage between sex and reproduction has been severed," Kaplan said. "But the danger of misinterpreting a woman's interest is serious."

Kaplan said the idea of "I'm a straight man, she's a straight woman, let's go" is not realistic.

"The idea that we can figure out a way to get together and have sex and go our separate ways is a fantasy."

See *Valentine's*, page 6

Lopsided coverage of Winter Olympics frosts journalist



Asa Bexell

STAFF WRITER

If I see another heart wrenching CBS Olympic feature about the tragic life and struggles of some washed-up figure skater, I think I'll jump off the banks of the Guadalupe River.

Maybe it's just bad timing on my part, but it seems every time I turn on the television to watch some Olympic sports, all I get is figure skating. I know there are lots of figure skating

fans out there, and I'm not saying CBS should stop broadcasting the sport altogether.

But there are those of us who would love to see a little more time devoted to other Olympic winter sports. After all, there is such a variety of them.

Frankly, I have been disappointed for years with television's coverage of the Olympic Games.

The announcers always kick off the Games by telling us how the whole world has gathered to battle for the gold, or something to that effect, and this year was no exception.

What world? As usual I haven't seen much of the rest of the world, except for the occasional glimpse of some Canadian.

The coverage of the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta could just as well have been a Hallmark movie-of-the-week called "The Janet Evans Saga."

Many of my American peers are quick to defend the coverage by pointing out that Americans want to see American athletes. But that is not entirely true.

I know plenty of Americans who would like to see more of the other competing nations. In addition, this country has more immigrants than any other country in the world. San Jose State University alone has students from more than 70 nations. I'm sure many of them would love to see how their fellow countrymen and women are doing in the Olympics.

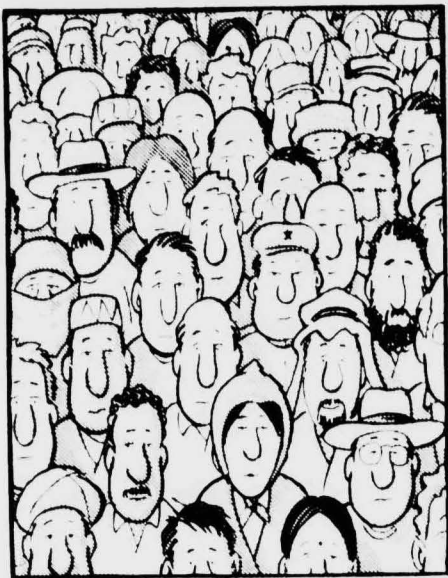
The whole idea of the Olympic Games is for the world to come together and compete in a wide variety of sports.

To the people who only want to see American athletes compete in American sports, I say watch ESPN Sportscenter or take a walk to your local sports facility.

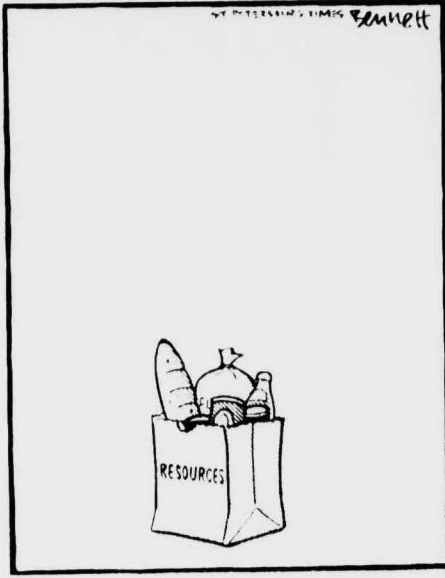
I want to see the top contenders of each sport, regardless of where they come from. And I want the excitement of the close calls. I don't want to see the race of luger John Doe, who finished in 28th place, just because he's American.

The 1998 Winter Olympics have just begun, so I might be a bit premature in judging CBS for its Olympic coverage. I just hope that people will get a chance to see that there's a lot more to the Olympics than figure skating and Americans.

Asa Bexell is a Spartan Daily staff writer.



Be fruitful and multiply...



Now, divide.

Cable customers pay now, view later; maybe

Tele-Communications Inc. is finally going digital. As of March 3, TCI will start installing digital cable television in the homes of San Jose residents, at least those lucky enough to somehow get a technician to their door.

The catch is that in exchange for such much-needed stations as The Game Show Channel and BBC World as well as the elimination of the A/B switch, consumers get stuck with a 5 to 5.5 percent rate increase.

This is not a good trade-off.

There is no doubt that TCI should go digital. Digital cable is more reliable than the old analog cable systems, as well as having the ability to carry more stations while using the same size cable. This allows for the annoying, antiquated A/B switch to finally be scrapped.

The problem is that TCI is not doing this for its customers, it's doing it for itself, just like always.

As the largest cable operator in the United States, TCI long ago forgot about its customers and began doing business for the bottom line. This is most obvious in what it calls customer service and what I call customer screwing.

No, TCI is making the switch in order to save its ass from the threat of direct broadcast satellite (DBS).

You've all seen the commercials, paid for by TCI, where Sincere Man sits on his easy chair, bashing DBS while singing the praises of continuing to take it up the tailpipe with TCI.

The truth is that my roommates and I currently pay the leeches at TCI about \$45 a month for the privilege of having about 50 channels, only about 15 to 20 of which anybody would ever watch.

When TCI installs our digital cable sometime in the next millennium, we will get another 30 plus channels.

However, eight of the channels will be pay-per-



Andrew Hussey

LOSER FRIENDLY

view and an additional seven will be expanded versions of premium channels such as HBO, channels that you have to pay extra for anyway.

A friend of mine has DBS. For \$200, he received a satellite dish and \$300 worth of free programming. He now gets 400 channels for about \$65 a month. You tell me what the better deal is.

TCI president Leo Hindery has stated that any rate increases enacted by TCI are favorable compared to the rate increases of other cable companies, increases that are rising faster than the rate of inflation.

In addition, he said that the major cause of these increases is the rising programming costs of particular channels, especially sports channels.

But what Hindery failed to tell us is that most sports channels are owned by cable companies. TCI itself has a partial stake in Fox Sports Network as well as regional sports channels.

According to TCI spokesperson Andrew Johnson, the company is still sorting out its strategy for bringing digital cable to San Jose. He goes on to say that it will take those highly trained technicians about two hours to install the digital cable and explain it to the customer.

This ridiculous length of time is necessary because the current cable structure is hopelessly obsolete.

Given that TCI will enact its rate increase sometime in June, according to the Denver Post, most of us can expect to receive notice of a rate increase before we receive digital cable. I actually don't expect anything less of TCI.

Your only solution is to kill your television or, at the very least, TCI.

Andrew Hussey is the Spartan Daily entertainment/lifestyle editor. His column appears every Friday.

Wheels of academic refunds grind slowly; red tape too sticky

After attending San Jose State University for four semesters, I have learned how to survive among 27,000 students.

I have learned how to stand in endless lines, when to go and eat in the Student Union to avoid the crowds and when to hit the restrooms.

What I haven't mastered is avoiding the bureaucratic red tape involved in receiving a timely refund.

During winter session one of my classes was canceled. The professor had to be phoned at home because the department had no idea that the class was canceled (the department will remain anonymous pending another column topic).

I promptly went to Admissions and Records, followed by six of my short-term classmates, and filled out the appropriate forms for dropping a class from my schedule.

The admissions employee tried to process my paperwork and generate my refund through Cashiering Services, but told me that they would have to keep \$5 of my \$450 fee because the department had not "officially announced" that the class had been canceled.

I pointed out that seven of us were all here for the same thing, and that the department could be contacted for verification. It was agreed that I was to get a full refund within two weeks — that was over a month ago.

One of the account technicians snickered when I told her that I was promised my refund in two weeks. I explained that Continuing Education had also given me the same information. She immediately told me that refunds are held until after the add period ends. "But I paid the maximum amount of tuition," I exclaimed.

The cashier explained that I might want to add a lab, and that the school didn't want checks crossing in the mail.

"I'm not adding any labs and besides, how much could those fees be?" I said, still perplexed.

The lab fees, I was told, might reach epic proportions — about \$15 to \$20. Then I was asked if the amount of money being held would cause a financial hardship.

I almost came unglued. When isn't the lack of \$450 a financial hardship for a student?

I didn't complain when I couldn't return the two books I purchased for the canceled class — things happen. But the red tape was choking me and my bank account.

Subsequently it was agreed upon that SJSU's red tape would be cut — in lieu of my "special circumstances." A couple of days ago I received my "expedited" refund. Maybe if I explain that I'm an SJSU student my credit card company will drop the 30-day accrued interest ...

Peggy Flynn is a Spartan Daily staff writer

Sparta Guide

Today

ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY

Third Annual Miss Black and Gold Pageant from 8 p.m. - 1 a.m. in the Student Union Ballroom. For more information, call Chris Baker at (408) 995-6250.

CHINESE CAMPUS FELLOWSHIP

Guest speaker from 2:30 - 4:30 p.m. in the Student Union's Almaden Room. For more information, call Esther Mar at (408) 298-4693.

CHINESE MANDARIN

Bible Fellowship Valentine's Day party at 2 p.m. in the Student Union's Costanoan Room. For more information, call Linda Lin at (408) 298-3249.

CHURCH OF SCIENTOLOGY

Film "Orientation" at 7:30 p.m. at 80 E. Rosemary St. For more information, call Eileen at (408) 441-6661.

GOLDEN KEY NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Free demonstration of TM Yogic Flying, open to everyone, from 3:30 - 5 p.m. in the Student Union's Guadalupe Room. For more information, call Carrie Jensen at (408) 283-0835.

LDS STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

"How long can love and marriage last?" by President Arthur Coombs and his wife at 11:30 a.m. at the San Jose Institute at 66 S. Seventh St. For more information, call (408) 286-3313.

LLDSA

General meeting from 1 - 2:15 p.m. in the Student Union's Montalvo Room. For more information, call Julie at (408) 365-7176.

PEER HEALTH EDUCATION CONDOM CO-OP

National condom week. Items on sale in the Art Quad across from the Student Union or inside the Union in case of rain. For more information, call Renee Allen at (408) 924-6204.

TOXICS INVESTIGATIVE GROUP AND EPIDEMIOLOGY RESEARCH

Community driven health risk assessment from 3 - 5 p.m. in the Student Union Council Chambers. For more information, call Dennis English at (408) 924-7932.

Saturday

BETA ALPHA PSI

Sponsoring Volunteer Income

Tax Assistance (VITA) in conjunction with the IRS. Free basic tax preparation from 12 - 3:30 p.m. in BC 309. For more information, call (408) 924-3495.

SJSU CENTER FOR STEINBECK STUDIES

Talk by John Sayles, recipient of 2nd Annual John Steinbeck Award Lecture at 3:30 p.m. (Engineering 185), dinner at 5:30 p.m. (Faculty Dining Room), film at 8 p.m. at Towne 3 Theatre (1433 The Alameda). For more information, call Susan Shillinglaw at (408) 924-4588.

Sunday

SPARTAN VILLAGE STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Town Hall Meeting at 9 p.m. in the Spartan Village Community Room. For more information, call Dennis English at (408) 924-7932.

Opinion page policies

Readers are encouraged to express themselves on the Opinion page with a Letter to the Editor.

A Letter to the Editor is a 200-word response to an issue or point of view that has appeared in the Spartan Daily.

Submissions become the property of the Spartan Daily and may be edited for clarity, grammar, libel and length. **Submissions must contain the author's name, address, phone number, signature and major.**

Submissions may be put in the Letters to the Editor box at the Spartan Daily Office in Dwight Bentel Hall Room 209, sent by fax to (408) 924-3237, e-mail at SDAILY@jmc.sjsu.edu or mailed to the Spartan Daily Opinion Editor, School of Journalism and Mass Communications, San Jose State University, One Washington Square, San Jose, CA 95192-0149.

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SPARKWORD



"He seems so listless since the neutering."

REAL LIFE ADVENTURES



Nobody's in a hurry when you are, and everybody's in a hurry when you're not

This is JEOPARDY!



History major Ethan Spanier, attempts a "Jeopardy!" Daily Double question given to him by Greg Pabst from Promotions Marketing in San Francisco.

Photos By Brian Prince/ Spartan Daily

'A & Q' game show search looks for champs at SJSU

By Mark Gomez
Staff Writer

The question is — name a theme tune to any game show.

Remember to phrase the answer in the form of a question.

Representatives from the game show "Jeopardy!" — minus its theme song and host Alex Trebek — visited San Jose State University Wednesday.

The event was part of a five campus, Bay Area search for students to compete in an upcoming "Jeopardy! College Championship."

The question and answer game show, for the first time in the show's 14-year history with Trebek, will tape the contest on a college campus — the Zellerbach Auditorium at University of California, Berkeley on March 21 and 22.

Berkeley, Santa Clara University, Stanford University and the University of San Francisco are the other Bay Area campuses "Jeopardy!" will visit.

"We're looking for the best of the best. People that have a broad knowledge of various subjects and that have a good understanding of how the game works," said Gary Fiset, who works on promotions for KGO-Channel 7 in San Francisco.

About 25 students surrounded the tent at the Seventh Street Plaza when the representatives first started taking applications. Students filled out a questionnaire that included five various questions.

Participants were given one question to answer, and if correct, won a prize.

Scott Duffy, an electrical engineering major, was the first student to finish the form and field a

question.

"I like the show, and I'd love to be on it," Duffy said. "It'd be a really cool experience."

Approximately 150 students will make it past the preliminary process and partake in an audition on Feb. 28, a process that includes a mock "Jeopardy!" game and interview process.

Promotions manager for "Jeopardy!" Laine Suttan, said she expects to receive 500 applications per campus.

The "Jeopardy! College Tournament" has been held for more than 10 years.

Leslie Brown, an environmental studies student, is hesitant to make a game show appearance.

"I'd be kind of afraid that I'd end up looking like a fool on TV," Brown said. "But I think it would be fun. I've always wanted to be on a game show."

Daily staffers 'jeopardize' pride, take shot at big time

By Jeremiah Oshan
Staff Writer

The series of sleepless nights that had plagued me since I found out that I would be trying out for "Jeopardy! College Tournament" would finally be coming to an end.

OK, it was only one night and it wasn't exactly sleepless, but I digress.

It was a day I had dreamed about since I saw Double Dare back in fourth grade. I would be trying out for an actual game show.

Last night I called my mom, dad and other assorted relatives and told them I would be taking a shot at becoming a "College Jeopardy! Genius."

Interviews with "Nightline" and "60 Minutes," would soon follow. I'd be like that guy who became an American sensation on "Twenty-one" in the '50s.

After waking up and eating my morning "brain food," (Coco-roos, generic Coco-puffs), I rushed out the door in time to catch my 10:12 a.m. bus, so that I could be first in line for the 11 a.m. tryout.

When I got there at 10:45 a.m. I realized San Jose State University students might not be as interested as me. There was no line.

My destiny was unfolding right before my eyes.

To my utter disappointment, the booth consisted of a pop-up tent, a cheesy table and an even cheesier game board.

Discouraged, but not disenfranchised, I filled out the questionnaire they were passing out.

My hopes fell when I saw the "answers."

"In 1896 he was made director of the Department of Agricultural Research at Tuskegee."

"Among his operas are 'Cosi Fan Tutte' and 'Don Giovanni.'"

"It's the rather short name of Italy's longest river."

"Matt Damon plays a rebellious math prodigy in this recent film."

"Sam Adams helped this state draw up its constitution and eventually became its governor."

I knew the last two, but my answers to the first three were less than adequate.

Apparently "A person who has never been in my kitchen" is not an adequate answer. I was even less creative with the second and third "answers."

As I turned in my "question" card, I was asked to "question" one more "answer" for the chance to win a variety of prizes.

"Fruit of the Loom" had these four fruits as its mascots during the '80s, a fig leaf, an apple and two of this fruit."

I questioned an emphatic, "What are grapes?"

I had questioned the \$500 answer.

An electronic game was handed to me.

The sun shone upon me as I raised my hands in victory.

Chances are I won't be picked to go to the big show, but I will always be able to show off my trophy, which in its own little way says "College Jeopardy! Genius."

By John Meyer
Senior Staff Writer

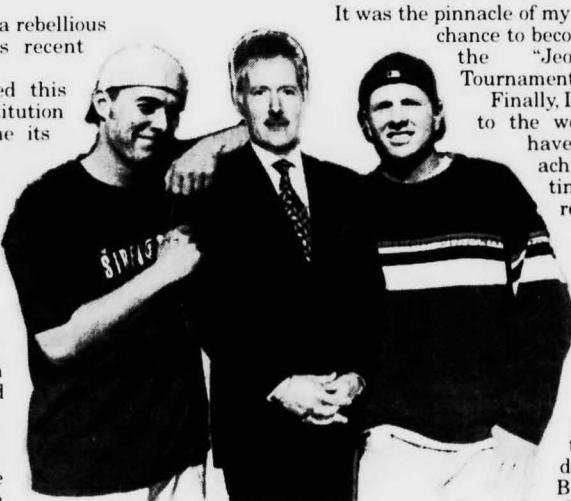
It was the pinnacle of my academic career: A chance to become a contestant on the "Jeopardy! College Tournament."

Finally, I had a shot to prove to the world that I might have a brain and achieve my goal of getting rich quick and retiring in my 20s.

Winning would not be easy, especially for a young student who has been educated by the California public school system all his life. I knew I would be competing against the top college students in the country. Brainiacs from Ivy League schools such as Harvard and Yale would be my opponents. You know, people with IQs higher than their body weight.

No problem. I had a strategy: luck. If I got the right categories, then I would soon be hanging out with Alex "The Man" Trebek. For instance, getting categories such as sports, beer, famous porn actresses and celebrities who overdosed would make me the next "Jeopardy!" college champion.

11:05 a.m. A black RV with Alex Trebek's mug on it pulls onto campus. The "Jeopardy!" contestant search team had arrived. I got goose bumps. The "Rocky" theme song was playing in my head. It was time to step up to the challenge.



Spartan Daily reporters Jeremiah Oshan and John Meyer pose with a cutout of "Jeopardy!" host Alex Trebek.

11:10 a.m. The crew set up the booth, and a single file line of 20 of the most elite SJSU students formed. I eyed my competition. No one was going to take "my" title.

One of the crew members handed me an application. The front side was a personal information form: name, age, address, etc. Piece of cake. I turned it over, and finally there were the five answers. The problem was that none of the answers were in a category that fit my interests. My strategy failed, but my competitive spirit was still alive. I was going to give it my all.

Answer One: "It's the legal term for putting a person on trial again for a previously prosecuted offense."

I knew this one. What is double jeopardy? Next! Answer Two: "A developer of the computer language COBOL, Grace Hopper, coined this term for a computer glitch."

I should've known this one, but brain freeze will happen.

Question Two: "What is a bug?" I'm one for two, and it's not over — yet.

Answer three: This poet changed his name to Imamu Amiri Baraka to honor his African heritage. Again, I had no idea. Who is Maya Angelou?

Question three: "Who is Lee Roy Jones?"

I was discouraged at this point. One for three. Answer four: "On December 3, 1991, his 'Everything I Do I Do It for You' was named Top World single by Billboard."

I was embarrassed, not because I didn't know the answer, but because I did. Who is Bryan Adams? Two for four.

Answer five: "He died late June, 1520, in Tenochtitlan."

Put a fork in me because I was done. I still took a stab at it. Who is Napoleon?

Question five: "Who is Montezuma?"

11:15 a.m. With a two for five finish, I'll never make it on "Jeopardy!" Obviously luck was not on my side. Oh well, there's always "Wheel of Fortune."

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Michael Chang prepares to return a serve against George Bastl during his Wednesday night match. Chang won the match against Bastl to advance to the third round.

Top seeds in Sybase Open hold serve, set up possibility of memorable final

By Jeremiah Oshan
Staff Writer

Michael Chang and Andre Agassi both won their matches to advance to the quarter-finals at the Sybase Open Wednesday and set up a possible semi-final match on Saturday.

Agassi easily beat French Open champion Gustavo Kuerten 6-3, 6-1, spanning all of 41 minutes in the early evening match. The two battled from the baseline, but the match was dominated by the more experienced Agassi, who beat the 21-

year-old Brazilian with his big groundstrokes. He will face Jan-Michael Gambill in the quarter-finals.

In the later match, Chang faced a player with a playing style similar to his own. Both are known for their ability to move around the court. George Bastl is the No. 1 player at USC and got into the tournament as a qualifier.

Chang had hoped that Bastl would come out a little nervous. "The top guys have to get used to these young guys not being intimidated by them," Chang said.

In the next round Chang will be facing another youngster in

German Tommy Haas.

"You can't afford to look past Haas," Chang said in response to the possibility of facing Agassi in the semi-finals. "He hits some very heavy balls."

In Thursday's afternoon matches, American Todd Martin beat qualifier Jaime Oncins in straight sets 6-3, 7-6 (7-3). John Van Lottum of the Netherlands beat Vince Spadea 7-5, 6-7 (2-7), 6-2.

The evening session had No. 1 seed Pete Sampras besting Jordi Burillo 6-3, 7-6 (7-2). The score of the late match between Mark Woodforde and Mal Washington was unavailable at press time.

Is there a grassy knoll in Nagano or is it me?

I have a professor who says he isn't paranoid, but still claims that everything is a conspiracy. The university is this, the university is that, blah, blah, blah. It really is quite amusing.

But, while I may not be the biggest Oliver Stone fan, I have concocted my own Olympics conspiracy — The Winter Olympics don't exist. They are a computer generated fantasy.

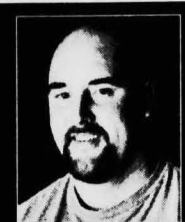
In the 1970s, there was a movie starring Orenthal (I mean O.J.) and James Brolin (I mean Mr. Striesand), called "Capricorn One." The premise of the movie was that these astronauts were going to be the first men on Mars. At the last minute NASA officials pulled them out of the spaceship, telling them that their data showed a manned trip to the red planet wouldn't work. They hid the astronauts and set up a TV studio where, upon their planned arrival date, they would "create" a Mars landing.

The plan went off without a hitch, except on the trip back to Earth the capsule exploded, leaving the astronauts basically men without a planet.

While I don't think that people like Picabo Street and Eric Lindros will be crawling through the desert, like Mr. Striesand and Orenthal, I do believe they are in on the conspiracy. CBS is the mastermind of the Olympic illusion.

My evidence is based on the fact that I have been learning about the winner of the events 20 or so hours in advance of when CBS, the Conspiracy Broadcasting Station, can generate the events through the use of computer models and such. It is a real live "Wag the Dog" story.

Now, I know that some of you are thinking I've been hanging out with Ross Rebagliati, the snowboarder allegedly caught with dope in his system, but I'm as straight as Bill Clinton is crooked.



Aaron Williams

**DON'T BELIEVE
THE HYPE**

Don't discount my theory until you riddle me this Batman — Why is it that I was able to watch the United States kick the crap out of Iraq, live, during the Gulf War, but I can't see a stinkin' hockey game until nearly a day later?

Hello. Has anybody ever heard of a friggin' satellite or is it just me?

I'll tell you why, Boy Wonder. It's because there is a think tank of conspirators in some hangar-like television studio masterminding the dupe of the public.

They leak out standings and results when the events are supposed to be happening, Japan time. The public reads about them in the papers the next morning, allowing CBS to buy some time to "produce" these events.

These "produced" events take time and money to complete. Why do you think CBS isn't showing more events and whole events? It's because in the USA Today-world America lives in, all we need are snippets of something to satisfy our doubts. The inability to "produce" complete events is the reason that viewers must suffer through the pre-produced vignettes about the athletes and such.

I saw one today with International Olympic Committee president Juan Antonio Samaranch. Who gives a rat's ass about that stuff? Show me sports and nothing but sports, damnit.

But they, CBS and the IOC, can't because Nagano doesn't exist.

As for me I've watched the last of the Olympics this time. I wish to concentrate my energy on why SJSU is conspiring against my professor. Not.

Aaron Williams' column "Don't Believe The Hype" appears from time to time.



Sparta Games



Hockey

The SJSU Ice Hockey team is playing the first ever Alumni game Saturday, Feb. 14, at 7:45 p.m. at the Ice Centre. The team has already qualified to play in the ACHA National playoffs in New Jersey. For more information, contact Ron Glasow or Chris Cable at 238-0440.

Baseball

Pending on the weather, the SJSU baseball team will play a three game series against Cal Poly San Luis Obispo this weekend. Today's game will be played at 3 p.m., with Saturday and

Sunday's games played at 1 p.m. at Municipal Stadium. Thursday's game against CSU Hayward was postponed and will be made up at a later date.

Women's Hoops

SJSU will take on Rice University at 7:30 p.m. in the Event Center Saturday night.

Women's Tennis

The Spartan tennis team will take on UC Davis today at the Spartan Courts, weather permitting. The matches will start at 2 p.m.

Women's Gymnastics

The Spartan women will be taking on the Hornets of Sac State tonight at 7:30 p.m. in the Spartan Gym.

SAN JOSE LASERS

Playoff tickets for the Lasers are on sale today. They will host one game in the best-of-three first round series. The game will be held on Feb. 22 at 4 p.m. in the Event Center.

Ticket prices range from \$43 (courtside) to \$8 (general admission). For tickets or information call 998-BASS.

Let's get ready to rumble...



Tulsa player Jamica Johnson wrestles the ball from Spartan guard Elisha Williams during Thursday night's game which SJSU won 57-51 at the Event Center.

SJSU men lose to Tulsa 68-55; drop to 2-19

TULSA, Okla. (AP) — Eric Coley scored 17 points, blocked four shots and made three steals, sparking Tulsa to a 68-55 victory over San Jose State Thursday.

Tulsa (15-9, 6-3 in the Western Athletic Conference) pulled steadily away from the struggling Spartans, who dropped to 2-19 and 0-9.

Coley, despite playing just 23 minutes before fouling out, was tough on SJSU.

In one first-half sequence, the sophomore scored on a steal, came up with another steal and slam dunk, blocked a shot at the other end and scored on another layup off a pass from Rod Thompson.

Coley buried consecutive 3-point shots in the second half to push TU's lead to 46-32 with 14:01 to play. Tulsa led by 18 at 63-45 with 3:33 left before San Jose cut the gap slightly in the final minutes.

Shaun Murray had a career-high 15 points to lead SJSU.

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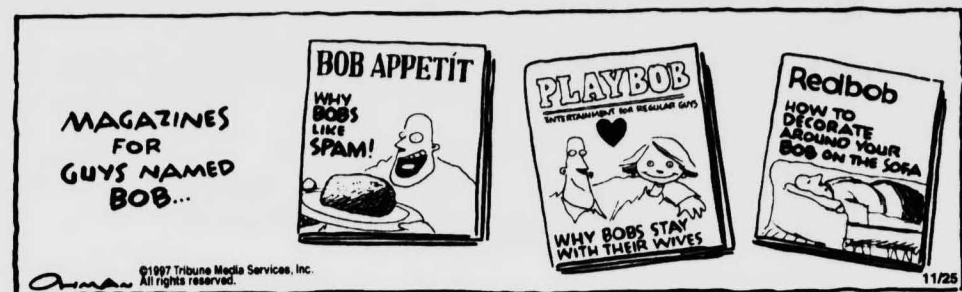
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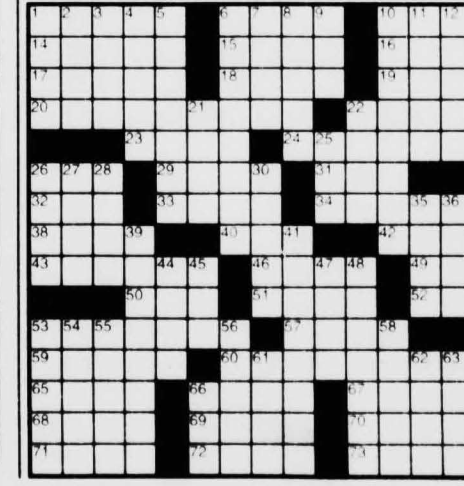
Daily Crossword

ACROSS

1 Not together
6 Soft drink
10 Urban cars
14 Bronco-riding event
15 Hawaiian guitars
16 Astronaut Shepard
17 "Looking Glass" girl
18 Applaud
19 Mongolian desert
20 Kind of garden
22 Like yellow pads
23 Part of a window
24 Sequin
26 Cheerleader's cry
29 Article
31 Blvd
32 Grand — Opry
33 Ore deposit
34 Struck
38 Norwegian city
40 Dip in gravy
42 Captain Kirk's navigator
43 Food for animals
46 Decorate a gift
49 — out barely
50 Eggs
51 By oneself
52 Still
53 Authorizes
57 Greek cheese
59 Spirit in "The Tempest"
60 — Dundee
65 Type of fuel
66 Honolulu's island
67 Christie
68 Pierre's deed
69 Songbird
70 Assists in crime
71 Headliner

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Science fiction writers William Gibson and Tom Maddox teamed up to pen Sunday's episode of the "X-Files" entitled "Kill Switch."

While investigating the shooting of a computer genius, agents Fox Mulder (David Duchovny) and Dana Scully (Gillian Anderson) become the targets of an unknown murderer who is capable of extreme torture.

Hint: The Internet plays a prominent role.

This new episode airs on FOX at 9 p.m.

And for those "Philes" who just can't get enough, FX is offering up its plethora of "X-Files" fare.

Tonight

At 8 p.m., "One Breath" in which Mulder suspects the government to be involved when Scully's comatose body is discovered at a hospital.

At 11 p.m., it's "3." Mulder links a run of grisly deaths to a pack of modern-day vampires.

Feb. 16

At 8 p.m., "Firewalker" follows a team of scientists

researching a volcano who happen upon a parasitic silicon-based life form.

At 11 p.m., "One Breath" airs again.

Feb. 17

At 8 p.m., "Red Museum" finds cattle ranchers in a remote region of Wisconsin suspicious of a religious cult when local teenagers are drugged and abducted.

At 11 p.m., "Firewalker" airs again.

Feb. 18

At 8 p.m., "Excelsius Dei" links a series of violent convalescent home attacks to peevish spirits from beyond the grave.

At 11 p.m., "Red Museum" airs again.

Feb. 19

At 8 p.m., "Aubrey" delves into the experiences of a pregnant woman who experiences visions of serial killings stretching back half a century.

At 11 p.m., "Excelsius Dei" airs again.

The X-Files official web site and TV Guide contributed to this compilation.

Little green men invade Crichton's latest: 'Sphere'

By Leah Bower
Staff Writer

REVIEW

Oh no, not another movie about aliens!

Considering that movies about aliens have been done to death since "Independence Day" was a box office hit, "Sphere" manages to present some new ideas.

Based on a book by Michael Crichton, "Sphere" starts out like countless movies before with a team assembling to contact an alien.

Ho hum.

Dustin Hoffman is the psychiatrist grouped with Samuel L. Jackson and Sharon Stone as scientists sent to investigate an alien ship buried beneath coral on the ocean bed. The mysterious government official, dressed in black, makes his requisite appearance early on as well.

Hoffman is relatively convincing as a scientist while Jackson makes a great genius. Stone fails to shine as Hoffman's ex-love interest, although she could have been worse.

The first fourth of this rather long movie is pretty standard for

movies dealing with aliens. It is only later that "Sphere" manages to pull away from the pack.

Witty lines such as Jackson's, "So that's what the little green men are saying now, 'Take me to your therapist?'" add punch until the real action starts.

The action begins with actress Queen Latifah being stung to death by a horde of nifty-looking jellyfish.

The special effects certainly add to the movie, and it's novel considering the plot is based on Earth, putting the action a little closer to home.

From Latifah's death on, the movie gets good.

As a viewer, you need to pay a lot of attention to the plot because there are so many twists, but it pays off in the long run.

The ending is unexpected unless you've read Crichton's book, an important aspect of moviemaking that is often overlooked.

I hate knowing what is going to happen before it does, considering I'm not psychic.

Unless you want to see a mindless movie purely for entertainment, "Sphere" is a good investment considering you can often get a student discount on tickets.

Accounting students have 'taxing' jobs

By Sharon Parks
Staff Writer

To all those who tear their hair out at the prospect of doing taxes, fear not.

Help is on the way in the guise of accounting students who will prepare student income tax returns on campus at no charge every Saturday until April 11.

"The accounting students have to have two semesters of tax classes," said Pat James, a senior lecturer in the College of Business. "They're doing this to gain practical service. It allows

them to interview clients and review the situation."

After the return has been prepared by the students, it will be reviewed by certified public accountants who volunteer their time to help students.

Clients must have a reasonably basic tax return.

Complex issues, James said, require a professional tax preparer.

Some students liked the idea.

"This will be a godsend if it works out," finance major Yen Dang said. "I need all the help I can get."

"I'll think about it, then I have

to consult with my dad who is putting me on his income tax," said Serafin Fierro, an international business major. "I need to learn more about my taxes before I use the free tax service."

James said the student tax preparers speak eight languages so that taxpayers can feel comfortable speaking their own languages.

Clients are taken on a drop-in basis.

Students need to bring W-2s, 1099 forms, a copy of their 1996 tax returns and any other necessary information. The tax service has all other needed tax forms.

In the case of a refund, returns can be filed electronically after they have been reviewed. "It's good," business major Marcela Bolanos said. "I'm going to use it."

The free tax help takes place on Saturday afternoons from noon to 3:30 p.m. in Room 309 of the Business Classroom building.

The accounting students are also offering the service to senior citizens and moderate-income taxpayers during the same hours.

For more information call the Student Tax Line at 924-3495.

Independent filmmaker 'Sayles' away with award

By Cindy Searberry
Staff Writer

The Center for Steinbeck Studies found a little bit of John Steinbeck in acclaimed independent film director and writer John Sayles. So much so, they will present the second annual "in the souls of the people" John Steinbeck Award to the 47-year-old New York native.

It seems Sayles shares something with last year's Steinbeck award recipient, Bruce Springsteen. Sayles directed three videos for the blue-jean clad, All-American, blue-collar rocker. Both men, like Steinbeck, told stories about personal struggles and triumphs.

"Men With Guns," a film written, directed and edited by Sayles, tells the story about a Mexican doctor who trains interns to assist native Indian tribes living in the jungles of Mexico. When the doctor discovers that "men with guns" are killing his former students, his search becomes more than a quest for the outlaws. Dr. Fuentes takes a personal look into the hearts of the people of Mexico and into himself to find what it means to be a man.

Steinbeck's "The Forgotten Village," directed and produced by Herbert Kline in

1941, parallels Sayles' story of tradition, ancient rituals and making a change for the better for the people.

The two men also faced similar challenges in making their films on smaller-than-

dios and their money, thus allowing him the freedom to produce highly original work.

The cast in Steinbeck's film spoke Indian. Sayles wrote "Men With Guns" in Spanish. English subtitles were added to both films.

"Sayles movies are not your flashy kind of Hollywood movie," a spokesperson for the Steinbeck Center said. "His films are high quality work."

A psychology major, Sayles acted in school plays and summer stock while he was a student at Williams College. Later, he wrote fiction and then wrote B-movie scripts. He directed his first film, "Return of the Secaucus 7," in 1980. Soon, other films followed, ranging from the lives of lesbians to the life of an alien. Sayles gained wide attention as a distinctive film maker.

"My main interest is making films about people," he said. "I'm not interested in cinematic art."

Sayles was nominated for an Oscar for his "Lone Star" screenplay, but lost out to "Fargo" in 1997.

Students may catch Sayles Saturday at 3:30 p.m. when he will lecture on campus in the Engineering Building, Room 185. "Men With Guns" will premiere at the Towne 3 Theatre Saturday at 8 p.m.



Photo courtesy of Castle Rock Entertainment

Writer/director John Sayles on the set of "Lone Star" from Castle Rock Entertainment.

Hollywood budgets. Sayles makes most of his films outside the influence of major stu-

Child care: Center expected opening 1999

Continued from page 1

while still offering similar services, choosing a modular design is a real possibility.

Olson said modular buildings tend to get a bad name because they are generally used beyond their expected lifetime. Still, he said ground-up facilities are generally superior because they can be custom designed to the specific requirements of the program.

The new center was originally scheduled to open in July of 1996 and is now expected to break ground in November and open in the fall of 1999.

Jim Zavagno, facilities planner for SJSU and project manager

for the child care center, said the delay was due to having to revisit the same issues with each incoming A.S. president and director.

Roth has been waiting for a new facility since 1989.

"Things kind of sat," she said. "Jeff (A.S. president Batuhan) and Alfonso have picked up the ball and really run with it."

Zavagno cites two reasons why "they really need to move on it," because \$500,000 has now been invested in the land and the university's lease with the current child care center will run out in the summer of 1999.

Child care has been provided

for student parents by the Frances Gulland Child Development Center located at 10th and San Salvador streets since 1972.

Roth hopes the new facility will be able to serve 100 children at any given time, 40 more than the current center. The new facility will also be able to handle infants and toddlers.

There will be two categories for those who are interested in enrolling. A subsidized list will give priority to parents with the lowest income and enrollment will range in cost from nothing to \$5 a day.

A full fee list will be first-come

first-serve and cost \$20 a day. The fee includes a breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack.

Roth said the new program will have many advantages other than cost.

"We are more flexible," said Roth, who pointed out that a parent could sign up for as little as two half-days or as much as five full days. Roth also said there are fewer risks.

"You're guaranteed a quality program."

De Alba said the \$6 student fee would continue indefinitely unless students vote to repeal it.

Valentine's: Talking is necessary in relationships

Continued from page 1

Kaplan said the notion of sexual freedom doesn't mean a return to the sixties when the message was "all sex is good and have as much sex as you can."

"People need to find their way for themselves," Kaplan said. "There are all sorts of times when no sex is good... whether you're 15, 35, 50 or 70."

Kaplan said people need to update their notions of what sex and relationships mean in today's context of equality and long-term marriages.

"What does 'til death do we part' mean with increased longevity?" Kaplan asked.

Kaplan said disassociating sex from childbirth should empower both straights and

gays to decide for themselves how to map out their sexual lives.

"Casual sex is absolutely fine and ought to be encouraged," Kaplan said. "I don't think that (separating sex from reproduction) empties it of meaning. Pleasure is a gift of God."

Kaplan said complications are the necessary outcome of finding sexual freedom since you can't tell what somebody's interests are ahead of time.

Wong said if he were to give a gift of condom roses to a woman he would tell her "don't take me seriously unless I express myself with words."

Failure to communicate one's desires clearly may lead to some unexpected results

as America becomes more comfortable with its sexual freedom, according to Kaplan.

He constructed a possible situation of a woman shattering male stereotypes by saying to a new lover that the sex had been great and that she'll "see him around."

"And he is the one left starry-eyed because he thought he had found the love of his life," Kaplan said.

Kaplan will be teaching another course at Stanford in the spring term titled "Greek Love and Queer Theory."

He will be holding a colloquium sponsored by the philosophy department on the SJSU campus on same sex marriages, civil disobedience and equal citizenship on March 18 at 4 p.m.

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